

THE WASHINGTON HERALD

PUBLICATION OFFICE: 714 FIFTEENTH STREET NORTHWEST.
Entered at the post-office at Washington, D. C., as second-class mail matter.
Published Every Morning in the Year by THE WASHINGTON HERALD COMPANY.
Under the Direction of SCOTT C. BONE, Editor HENRY L. WEST, Business Manager
Telephone Main 3300. (Private Branch Exchange.)
Subscription Rates by Carrier: Daily and Sunday, \$5.00 per month; Daily and Sunday, \$4.00 per month; Daily, without Sunday, \$3.00 per month; Sunday, without daily, \$1.00 per month.
Subscription Rates by Mail: Daily and Sunday, \$5.00 per month; Daily and Sunday, \$4.00 per month; Daily, without Sunday, \$3.00 per month; Sunday, without daily, \$1.00 per month.
No attention will be paid to anonymous contributions, and no communications to the editor will be printed except upon the name of the writer.
Manuscripts offered for publication will be returned if unavailable, but stamps should be sent with the manuscript for that purpose.
All communications intended for this newspaper, whether for the daily or the Sunday issue, should be addressed to THE WASHINGTON HERALD.
New York Representative, J. C. WILBERDING
Special Agency, Brunswick Building.
Chicago Representative, BARNARD & BRANHAM, Boyce Building.
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1910.

The approach of the Christmas season, the view of the ship windows, and the advertisements of the dealers in toys indicate that there has been a sense on the part of the manufacturers of toys for children a great change in the tastes of the modern child. It was, perhaps, to be expected—that the queer ramifications of politics—that the popularity of the Teddy Bear should die away; out with the passing of this, one of the most popular of children's idols of recent years, seems to have passed also our dear old friends of childhood, the little toy dog and the little tin soldier and the Barlow knife that used to fill our hearts with joy and shed our youthful blood all over the parlor carpet. With these has passed the joy with which, on Christmas morning, a lad would discover a shiny red apple in the toe of his stocking, the delight in picture books and puzzles, and other well-remembered playthings.

The Fashion in Toys.

Many of us can go back across the years in fancy to the time when these simple toys delighted our souls. To-day most of us feel that Mr. John Kendrick Bangs is voicing our sentiments when he writes: "My little toy dog is covered with dust. Like the dog in the dear poet's song. The little steel cars are covered with rust. They're laid in the corner so long. The marbles are broken and the soldiers of tin. Lie idle in the old casket. And there is the drum, and the trumpets whose din I loved in the ages at rest. Much as we may regret the encroachments of modernity on our youthful Christmas ideals, we must acknowledge, perhaps, that the manufacturers of children's toys are wise in their generation. They believe that children of to-day desire their playthings to be up-to-date. No more does the stern tin soldier, with musket at rest; the gallant trooper on his leaden horse, or the toy dog with his semile smile appeal. In their place to-day is offered for the delectation of the youngsters miniature moving-picture outfits, toy aeroplanes, marvelous mechanical automobiles, imitation dirigible balloons, toy telephones, queer electric appliances, about which our distant childhood never dreamed, and other purely material toys that show how sadly the advance of science and invention has encroached upon the old, happy, unthinking days of childhood long ago.

For us, children of a larger growth, there remains little but the regret voiced by Mr. Bangs. A new childhood, apparently, has come to pass, with new joys, new aspirations, new ideals; and with Mr. Bangs we may say: Each rare little toy, as it comes to my hand—My hand that is withered with years—Brings back to my mind that beautiful land Now veiled in the mist of my tears. The beautiful land of the long, long ago. The scenes of the playtime of yore. When deep in my soul with its radiant glow Shone the sunlight of days now so rare. It is, after all, the old, somewhat sad Tennysonian cry of "the dear, dead days that are no more." The gift that yawns between the workaday present and the days of our youth seems wider, and deeper, and more impossible to bridge about the Christmas season. Yet, we must be careful, perhaps, that, in regretting that the tastes of the youngsters of to-day are more sophisticated than were the tastes of the children of years ago, that no longer do the simple joys delight them, there should be no trace of bitterness. The change in the fashion of the Christmas toys is but another sign that "the world doth move," and, perhaps, it is at the Christmas season that we, who are getting to be old fogies now, feel most out of touch with our time.

If the average theatrical press agent would take a lesson or two from the White House crew in the matter of securing publicity it might be helpful.

Our Foreign Trade.

One of the chief arguments of those in favor of ship subsidies, used also by those who believe that by the aid of discriminating duties or other measures we can build up anew the American merchant marine, is that the extent of our foreign trade is far less in certain profitable markets than it should be. It is frequently pointed out that our trade competitors of England, France, and Germany beat us in profitable markets, not always, by any means, by underselling or by providing a better class of goods, but simply through their methods and details of salesmanship and delivery.

It does not really affect our foreign trade at all whether that trade be carried in American or foreign bottoms. The essential thing is to create a demand for American manufactures, to build up a reputation for American goods, and to see to it that those goods are delivered in good condition, quite up to the sample, and with arrangements for payment that are made, not to suit the established

prejudices of the American merchant, but to conform to the long-established customs of the country in which the market is found.

In the "Daily Consular Reports," issued by the State Department for the behoof of American merchants and manufacturers, there is constant iteration of complaints about the carelessness with which the American merchant sets about supplying the foreign market. These complaints are supplemented often by the stories of returning travelers, and one concrete instance is offered by Mr. E. I. Lewis, of the Indianapolis News, who, writing of the situation in the far East, says:

"But when all this is said, the fact remains that the reason that the American manufacturer is not selling about as many goods in Manchuria to-day as he did before the Russo-Japanese war is very largely due to his fault. The British and the Germans are doing business and gaining simply because they are going after it in an intelligent, businesslike manner, seizing the fact that the Chinese and Manchus hate the Jap. and, prices and conditions, such as selling in 'broken lots,' being equal, they will not buy his goods if given the opportunity. But the American manufacturer sits at home, tries to sell by catalogue or letter, and in the old, unbroken lots and at his clumsy terms. The only surprise is that the American trade shows the totals that it does."

There is little use in talking about "the open door" or bawling the lack of American carrying facilities when the reason that American trade abroad does not increase in volume is due to such causes as those pointed out by Mr. Lewis. We attribute sometimes a touch of hard times to "overproduction," when all the time there is an ever-expanding and profitable market for all that we can manufacture if only our merchants will seek it intelligently. The trouble so far has been that we have a wide and very profitable market at home; and it seems hard for our producers to realize that times are changing and that new channels of distribution must be sought.

It is a big task the Federal government has undertaken in the dissolution of the sugar trust, but undoubtedly the United States Attorney General can succeed if he has the sand.

Incapable Army Officers.

Recent comment in The Washington Herald concerning the alleged prevalence of incompetent army officers finds a sequel in the late action of the War Department.

It has been determined that army officers who are "incapable of performing the duties" devolving upon them, quoting the language of the law on the subject, may be ordered before retiring boards. Hitherto the significance of the word "incapable" has been construed as relating to physical defect. Now it is to have a broader meaning, which it should have had all along, with the result that it is possible to get rid of an officer who is incapable, whatever may be the cause.

If that cause is derived from military service, the officer, of course, may be retired; but if it is attributable to influences which are not in line of duty, he may be wholly retired or completely separated from the military establishment. Officers who are in command now have an opportunity to report their subordinates who are incapable, with the chance that such officers will be brought to the attention of a board, which may accomplish their transfer to the retired list or their more complete elimination.

There has been a deal too much talk among senior army officers of the prevalence of unfit officers, until the impression has been encouraged that the army commissioned personnel is filled with officers who ought to be out of the service. This is an allegation which army officers should be prompt to contradict, unless they are regardless of any harm which may come to the service at the expense of individual advancement. It is now up to commanding generals and chiefs of bureaus to indicate, by name, those officers who are incapable, or cease this talk of the dire need of eliminative legislation. There has been a suspicion among observers that elimination is simply a means of creating vacancies as an aid to promotion. There has been reason to believe, as has been stated by The Washington Herald recently, that the War Department had within its power ample means for eliminating any officer who was not fit to continue in active service. This suspicion has now been confirmed by the action of the War Department. The proceeding may not furnish the vacancies which are desired by those who seek advancement, but it places the remedy in the power of those who are concerned with the maintenance of personnel efficiency by the riddance of officers who, for one or another reason besides merely physical disability, are incapable of performing their duties.

A fashionable New York woman said recently that it cost her \$4,000 a year to keep her pet dog. And yet she has been standing in the bread line in New York!

Every one is glad that President Taft is making recommendations of economy in his message, but we would be gladder still for an assurance that Congress will carry them all out.

A New Jersey man was tarred, and feathered for admiring a widow. The "redoubtable Sam Weller said, 'Widowers are dangerous.'

New York's "four hundred" has so largely increased, that it is over twice four hundred now. The recent influx of chorus girls into society probably accounts for the increase.

A fact that is not likely to worry many newspaper men is that the price of diamonds is to be advanced.

When the suffragettes throw eggs and fish at the head of the British cabinet it is pretty plain that the high cost of living is not bothering the women much over there.

And let it not be forgotten that the coming session of Congress will be, for a good many of the members, a sort of farewell tour.

After Col. Roosevelt tells us what is best to be done with the abandoned farms he may turn his attention to the abandoned statesmen.

Ladies, if you give the little girls dolls for Christmas, please see that they are not dressed in hobbie skirts.

Many a man buys an automobile these days so as to get a chance to toot his own horn.

A LITTLE NONSENSE.

FAMILIAR EPISODE.
The court clerk says, in accents slow: "You're charged with speeding, Richard Roe."
The copper says, in accents sour: "The rate was eighteen miles an hour."
The chauffeur murmurs, with a whine: "I wasn't going over nine."

The judge aside his law book lays. And says: "Ten dollars or ten days."
FANCY WORK.
"What's this contraption intended for?" "I can imagine no use to which it could be put."
"Then, I guess it must be intended for a Christmas present."

ARTISTIC ATMOSPHERE.
"What sort of affairs are these artistic evenings of hers?" "Well, she serves cake and pianists, and soloists, coffee and amateur poets."

A SHOPPING SAMPLE.
"Why are you saving this turkey foot?" "It was such a good turkey we had for Thanksgiving," explained the young housewife, "that I want to see if the butcher can't match it for Christmas."

RAISING FOWLS.
Some like plots that thicken, But I'm sure I prefer plain chicken Literature.

A BEAT FOR EACH.
"Has your college son decided on a career as yet?" "Not quite. He is somewhat undecided as regards medicine, law, newspaper work, civil engineering, dentistry, literature, mercantile life, banking, politics, and mining."

CUPID IN COURT.
"My girl's parents won't let me see her. Can't I get out an injunction or some sort of a law paper?" "I should think a writ of attachment would be in order."

ALL TANGLED UP.
"How's the automobile business?" "Big, and getting bigger. We have orders booked so far ahead that the machines are out of style before we can deliver 'em."

SHE NICKNAMED PLATT.
Death of New York Girl Who Named Senator "Easy Boss."
Mrs. Antonio Martinez, who before her marriage was Winnie Horn, the newsgirl who was credited with having nicknamed Senator Platt the "Easy Boss," died from asthma at 206 East Ninety-seventh street recently.

It was ten years ago that Winnie Horn reached the height of her fame as a newsgirl. The stand from which she and her sisters sold papers was located under the elevated stairway at Sixth avenue and Twenty-third street. Among her patrons were Senators Platt, Hanna, and Dewey, and Gov. Odell.

THE BIRTHDAY OF LORD ROTHSCHILD

A significance far beyond the showered congratulations which were showered upon him attended the recent seventieth birthday celebration of Lord Rothschild. For this is the centenary year of the famous London office in New Court, St. Swithuns Lane, where many a decision has been made to upon which the fortunes of empires have depended.

It is 100 years since Nathaniel Rothschild, the first British representative of the great financial dynasty, moved from St. Helen's place to the little court now completely surrounded by the pile of stately buildings that bear the Rothschild name. Nathaniel was the son of the founder of the Rothschild fortunes, Meyer Amschel, who, as I have related in these columns, held the treasures of the landgrave of Hesse-Cassel secure during the Napoleonic invasion of Germany.

It was a very different place then. Large though the business was then already, for a treasury loan of 12,000,000 pounds sterling was undertaken by the house as early as 1819, the first offices in New Court, a converted convent dwelling house, and old Nathaniel himself lived in the upper part. There practically is no vestige of the old building now remaining, though privileged visitors still see the paneled room which was the council chamber, the office of a latter day, when Baron Lionel, son of Nathaniel and the father of the present Lord Rothschild, had succeeded to the "throne."

Something of the contrast between the old building and the palatial pile of today may be said to exist between the homely portraits of the original Nathaniel, with his big-brimmed hat and some-what Johnsonian figure, and the exquisite new portrait of the present Lord Rothschild, the son of the family. One might well speculate as to how many reigning monarchs would even a respectable fraction of the power of this unassuming business man, who is to be found at his office as regularly as any humdrum managing director.

Yet his seventy years of life, to use Lord Rothschild's own characteristically modest words, "devoted entirely to business," have been fruitful of world-deeds, any one of which would have insured an important place in the history of Europe and of the British empire. It is said that during his reign at New Court he has brought out loans amounting in all to something like \$2,000,000,000 sterling. It was he who saved Egypt from financial ruin in the early days, and the amazing story of that adventurous evening when he helped Lord Beaconsfield to buy up the Suez Canal shares still is one of the true fairy tales of financial statesmanship.

In the Baring crisis, a matter of common recollection, he came to the rescue of the national credit, and to the present day his name is a household word in his ready help to Cecil Rhodes in his first struggling days, while his invaluable aid in the matter of government loans during the Boer war will be an ever-remembered national service. From his Cambridge days a trusted friend of King Edward, Lord Rothschild is the first professing Jew to take his seat in the House of Lords.

It is characteristic of Lord Rothschild that although he is spending his actual birthday in his country home at Tring, he has been in attendance at his office in St. Swithuns Lane every day. He is in excellent health and spirits, and in every sense a vigorous man. He is one of the young men of the empire, in whose individual responsibility for imperial efficiency he is a firm and hopeful believer.

This was the first time that the Kaiser, as sovereign, had been at Brussels, and his reception rather was of a mixed kind. Independence Belge even reported that there was some hissing as the imperial procession passed along, but even so, that was only of a piece with the welcome accorded to his grandfather on the occasion of his visit to Strasbourg in 1879, when the blinds of all of the windows were lowered, as this writer himself can testify, and that after the city had been under German rule for nine years.

But there are still other analogies. When Czar Alexander II of Russia in 1867—the first exhibition year—came to Paris and visited the Palais de Justice, he was greeted with a shout, "Vive le Pologne, Monsieur." The voice was that of a young advocate, M. Floquet, who afterward was to rise to ministerial rank and to wound Boulanger in a duel. At the time, in fact, the head of the blow to the vogue of "le brave general."

King's Lynn, which recently has been visited by King George and Queen Mary, at one time had an unenviable reputation as the abode of witches. In the earlier years of the seventeenth century several women were executed in the Tuesday Market Place on the charge of witchcraft. Most notorious of these perhaps was "Mother Gabbley," described in Wells parish register as the "exorcisable wife of King's Lynn."

LIFE INSURANCE CONTRACTS.

Striving for Economy, They Must Not Get Below Line of Safety.
From View.
Mr. W. W. McClench, the esteemed president of the Massachusetts Mutual Life, evidently well reads the lines of one of the late Lord Beaconsfield's favorite sayings, namely, that "Next to knowing when to seize an opportunity, the most important thing in life is to know when to forego an advantage." Hence, while in one of his recent addresses before the association meeting of the agency forces of his company he prominently exploited his belief that uniformity of policies resulting from the requirements of the New York law had drawn the attention of the public away from special features of the various contracts to the annual net cost to the insured, and also held that the furnishing of life insurance to the public at the lowest possible net cost will best stand the test of comparison with other reputable companies, he also considered it of great import that to meet such conditions the company must pay close attention to premium rates, dividends, and the condition of the future, so that no company, even in the heat of competition, should ever permit itself to write such liberal features in its contracts that may likely force its surplus below the safety line.

His further statement that the rivalry for volume has given way to rivalry for lowest net cost, certainly furnishes ample food for thought to the insurance mind to practice moderation in this respect. Thus, while he in no sense advocated any diminution or abatement of the privilege or benefits now accorded policyholders, nor would he desire to effect any increase in the net cost, but, if possible and safe, even strive for a still further reduction, he does not hesitate to aver that the present tendency for lowering the net cost may in time lead to a positive damage to companies as well as to the insuring public. That, owing to the uncertainty of the financial condition of the future, the possible industrial, and political upheavals, it is made all the more imperative on those having in trust policyholders' funds to provide for an emergency and be prepared for a stress and strain, and because life insurance contracts are based on certain fundamental and underlying principles of safety, it would be all the more unwise to depart from the lines of safety. Nor can his conclusion be that the activity, energy, and progress at the home office and in the field are after all the chief factors for the still greater popularity of life insurance.

POLISHING SENATORS' BUSTS.
Living Immortals Being Cleaned Up for New Allignment.
From the New York Sun.
A group of girls, in tow of a Capitol guide, made a great fuss at the Senate end of the Capitol when they came upon what for a moment appeared to be a collection of toppled popular idols. Scattered about on the tiled floor were the marble images of figures well known in contemporary political life.

Workmen were polishing the features of the unseated images. Recently they had stood upon pedestals in historical niches of the Senate chamber and looked down approvingly upon the proceedings of that staid body over which each of them once presided. To-day they were being brushed up, preparatory to taking new stations in the public corridor which runs the length of the south side of the Senate chamber.

Until recently the superintendent of the Capitol building, guided by suggestions of Senators, arranged the effigies as suited his taste. Thus it happened that likenesses of some of the "fathers of the republic" were lifted from pedestals in the Senate chamber which they had long adorned to make places for some of their successors who are still very much alive and occasionally mentioned as Presidential possibilities.

When ex-Vice President Fairbanks crowded that other distinguished Indiana occupant of the Vice President's chair, Schuyler Colfax, from his pedestal there was subdued comment, but when Col. Roosevelt's strenuous face looked in the chamber with the implied suggestion to the other notables to "edge up" a little he was greeted with a shout, "Vive le Pologne, Monsieur." The voice was that of a young advocate, M. Floquet, who afterward was to rise to ministerial rank and to wound Boulanger in a duel.

Beginning at the east end of the Senate chamber, the busts of the living immortals are being ranged in the niches provided for them in the Senate chamber in the order of their seniority, beginning with that of John Adams.

Cloth Made from Pine Wood.
From Harper's Weekly.
The discovery of a means of making cloth from the pine tree of Northern Europe and Canada has led English weavers to experiment with the Russian pine, with a view to introducing it as a textile. Pine cloth is regarded as the possible competitor of cotton cloth.

Pine threads are as lustrous as cotton threads; they can be mingled to advantage with woolen threads; they bleach and take dye equally well. Possibly the time is coming when pine cloth will be used in place of cotton for underclothing, while pine and wool mixtures will compete with heavier goods for outer garments. Pine cloth will be as cheap as cotton cloth, whatever the cost of manufacture, because the raw material of pine cloth is considerably below the price of raw cotton.

Our Friend the Dog.
From an Exchange.
Man loves the dog, but how much more ought he to love it if he considered, in the harmony of the laws of nature, the sole exception, which is that love of a being that succeeds in piercing, in order to draw closer to us, the partitions, ever elsewhere impermeable, that separate the species.

AT THE HOTELS.

If the Republican party had kept its promise to the people and enacted a tariff as enunciated in its platform of 1908, it would not have met the defeat it did at the last election, according to Senator Bristow, of Kansas, who is at the Shoreham.

"The voters supported those Congressional candidates who demanded the passage of a tariff law as promised to the people in the Republican platform of 1908," said Senator Bristow, "and those who did not stand by this pledge when the present tariff bill was enacted went down to defeat. The Republican party in Kansas did not suffer defeat, because its representatives in Kansas demanded that the platform promises of 1908 be kept."

Senator Bristow said the election showed that the people demanded a revision of the tariff, and that Congress is bound to abide by the will of the people. Speaking of the voters and citizens of the Western States in general, Senator Bristow said: "Our Western people are great readers; they absorb information wherever opportunity presents itself. They are as accurately informed on all subjects concerning public questions as it is possible to be, and it is useless to mislead them. No matter how strong his own individuality may be, the man who advances doctrines which are not those of the people, and expects the people to adopt them, is not in touch with the true sentiment of the people and is bound to fail."

The Senator said he had not yet studied the effect the result of the last election will be likely to have on the Republican Presidential outlook in 1912, and on President Taft in particular.

Victor Rosewater, editor of the Omaha Bee, is at the New Willard.

"I made a bet," said Mr. Rosewater, "that Bryan would control the State delegation to the next Democratic national convention, and I feel reasonably certain that it is a good one. I don't believe that Bryan will be a candidate, but through the delegation he will indicate his choice for the place."

"The effect of the last election on the Democrats is that they are inspired with more hope, are aggressive and militant, and their attitude is not without justification. The legislature of Nebraska is Democratic, and will doubtless elect a Democratic United States Senator. Nebraska is an agricultural State," continued Mr. Rosewater, "and the farmers are prosperous. Crops are good and prices are most satisfactory."

Mr. Rosewater said it was too early to say whether Taft would be renominated in 1912.

William Thaw, M., and Mrs. Thaw are at the New Willard. They were married last Thursday at New York. Mrs. Thaw before her marriage being Miss Gladys Virginia Bradley, of Bridgeport, Conn. Mr. Thaw is a nephew of Harry K. Thaw, although they are nearly of the same age. The marriage was performed by Rev. Daniel Dorchester, of Christ Church, Pittsburgh. There were neither fathers nor bridesmaids. About 150 guests attended, most of whom were Thaws and Bradleys, and Drexels and Biddles, of Philadelphia, two families related by marriage to the bride.

The greatest peril to civil service is the political influence, according to Joseph C. Mason, secretary of the Illinois civil service commission, who was seen at the New Willard recently.

THE BIG STICK
VOL. IV. NO. 29. WASHINGTON, DECEMBER 3, 1910. ONE CENT.
EVERY SATURDAY.
OUR MOTTO: If you see it in The Big Stick, it isn't necessarily so.
MAGAZINES GET BUSY.
GOING SOME.
WITH THE POLITICIANS.
ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.
THEY DO SAY—
MERELY SUGGESTED.
ANOTHER ASSIGNMENT.
NOT SO EASY.
Not Believed by the Tailor.